

The EAC is responding to the following questions about RFP 05-07. The EAC received several questions dealing with the methodology that we cannot answer. Those questions are not included below.

1. May we move the consideration of audits of vote counts into the Vote Recount section rather than the Vote Count section? To detect and correct any errors in an initial vote count, audits and vote recounts are best conducted in a manner that is independent of the initial vote count. Audit procedures would be substantially different than either vote count or recount procedures. May we have three separate sections -- Vote Counts, Audits, and Vote Recounts -- then tie them all together, as long as we answer all E.A.C. RFP questions plus some?
 - a. Yes
2. We do not currently have a copy of Microsoft Project. May we be allowed to submit our proposal via MS Word and Excel?
 - a. Yes
3. Re. "TECHNICAL PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS" in paragraph 1. I do not understand what is meant by ".. discuss each task beginning with 5.1. General Tasks." Do you mean 4.1 General Tasks?
 - a. Yes
4. Re. 2.0 Objective, one of the objectives is "for the purpose of developing best practices on these topics in time for implementation for the 2006 Federal elections. Is this realistic in light of the facts that there would not be enough time to complete this project whose period of performance goes to September 30, 2006 and for states to pass new legislation required to change their implementations in time for Federal primaries in 2006? Is this meant to refer rather to implementation by the November 2006 Federal general election?
 - a. Not all results would necessarily require new legislation.
5. Would it be possible for all bidders to have a few days extension to put together our teams and proposals? A few business days is very tight to try to put together such an extensive research proposal.
 - a. The proposal submission date is firm, but we can extend receipt time until 6:00 p.m. eastern.
6. Re. 4.2 Vote Count, paragraph one, may we add additional types of voting systems to the list? For instance, may we add older voting systems or newer voting systems than are listed there may still be in use or soon may be in use?
 - a. Yes
7. Re. 4.3.2 will the U.S. E.A.C. assist us with the solicitation of public comments? If not, what will you require the Contractor to do in the way of public notification and solicitation of comments?
 - a. Yes

8. Re. 6.0 what type of public hearings and board meetings does the EAC envision that the Contractor will attend and how frequent are they expected to be?
 - a. For the purposes of estimating costs and staff time please include an estimate for one half day meeting and one full day meeting, both in Washington, DC.
9. May we propose to bring in other subcontractors or PIs onto our team that has various skills?
 - a. Yes
10. Would you please give us the minimum and maximum budget allowance for this RFP and where may we find the range of expected hourly rates that is customary for government work?
 - a. We can't provide government cost estimate. Hourly rates have to be based on offeror's internal cost accounting system as stated in the cost proposal instructions.
11. Re. 4.3 "What kind of procedures are in place to allow for bipartisan administration/..." May we change "bipartisan" to "multi-partisan" and attempt to create a more general solution that would also apply to bipartisan?
 - a. Yes